

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, line 21, through page 11, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

Referring back to FIG. 6 and to FIGS. 8A and 8B, redeye detection module 14 identifies a preliminary set of candidate redeye pixels in the redness map 60 (step 82; FIG. 6). In some implementations, the preliminary set of candidate redeye pixels is identified by applying a two-dimensional redness filter to the redness map 60. In one exemplary implementation, the following two-dimensional redness finite impulse response (FIR) filter is applied to the pixel redness measures of the redness map 60:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (|x| < d1) \text{ and } (|y| < d1) \\ -1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

The two-dimensional redness filter is defined with respect to a central kernel pixel area and a pixel area surrounding the kernel pixel area. As shown in FIGS. 8A and 8B, the particular FIR filter implementation of equation (6) is defined with respect to a square kernel area 84 (AR1) of side length d1 and a surrounding pixel area 86 (AR2) corresponding to a rectangular path defined between a square pixel area of side length d2 and the central kernel pixel area 84, where d1 < d2 (e.g., d2 = 2 · d1). In some implementations, the average values of the pixels within the kernel area AR1 and the surrounding area AR2 may be computed using integral image processing, where an integral image S(x, y) for an input image I(x, y) is defined as:

$$S(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^x \sum_{j=0}^y I(i, j) \quad (7)$$

Given the integral image S, the sum of image pixels within an arbitrary rectangle (x1, x2] and (y1, y2] can be obtained by:

$$Sum(x1, x2, y1, y2) = S(x2, y2) - S(x2, y1) - S(x1, y2) + S(x1, y1) \quad (8)$$

Based on equation (8), the average value of the pixels within an arbitrary rectangle can be obtained efficiently with three integer additions/subtractions and one division. In the above-described implementation, the average pixel values APV_{R1} and APV_{R2} over areas AR1 and AR2, respectively, are computed and the two-dimensional FIR of equation (6) is applied to the redness map 60 to generate the following redness score (RS1) for each corresponding region of the redness map:

$$RS1 = \frac{AR1 - AR2}{APV_{R1} - APV_{R2}} \quad (9)$$

In another implementation, a nonlinear FIR filter is applied to the redness map 60 to generate the following redness score ($RS2$) for each corresponding region of the redness map:

$$RS2 = APV_{R1} + w \cdot \left(\frac{APV_{R1}}{APV_{R2}} \right)^4 \quad (10)$$

where w is a constant weighting factor, which may be determined empirically. In this equation, APV_{R1} represents the absolute redness of the central kernel square $AR1$, and (APV_{R1}/APV_{R2}) represents the contrast between the central square $AR1$ and the surrounding area $AR2$. The redness score $RS2$ of equation (10) formulates how a red dot region must be sufficiently red while also exhibiting high contrast against its surrounding regions. In the above-described implementations, redeye areas are approximated by square candidate pixel areas. In other embodiments, redeye areas may be approximated by different shapes (e.g., rectangles, circles or ellipses).